

REMARKS

Interview with the Examiner

An interview was conducted on September 16, 2005 between Examiner Lin Ye and applicant's attorney Michael DeHaemer. U.S. Patent No. 6,469,740 B1 to Kuroda was discussed in view of the rejection of claim 1. Various differences between claim 1 and Kuroda were pointed out to the Examiner to distinguish the reference. However, no agreement was reached.

Status Of Application

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application; the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 3-9 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,469,740 B1 to Kuroda et al. ("the Kuroda reference") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,507,519 B1 to Collins et al. ("the Collins reference").

Claims 10-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claim 3, though withdrawn from consideration, was amended to remain consistent with the amendment to claim 1. Claim 10 has been amended to remain consistent with the amendment to claim 1.

These changes do not introduce any new matter.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Kuroda in view of Collins, is respectfully traversed because the combination fails to teach all elements of the subject claims. In particular, amended claim 1 recites a specific structure including pixels and a level adjuster that is not taught or suggested by the cited references. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Kuroda reference in view of the Collins reference, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

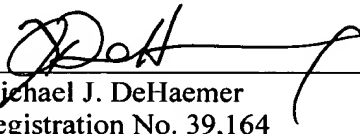
If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee,

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Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Michael J. DeHaemer
Registration No. 39,164
Attorney for Applicants

MJD/lfb:bar
SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP
717 N. Harwood, Suite 3400
Dallas, Texas 75201
Direct: (214) 981-3335
Main: (214) 981-3300
Facsimile: (214) 981-3400
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